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3. NOTES ON STUMPTAILED MACAQUE [*MACACA SPECIOSA* F. CUVIER] AND PIGTAILED MACAQUE [*MACACA NEMESTRINA* (LINN.)] FROM MEGHALAYA

The Forest Department of Meghalaya maintains a small zoo in the Lady Hydari Park, Shillong. Most of the animals under captivity are reported to be collected from different areas of the state with the help of local people. Very recently some macaque monkeys have been brought and kept in the zoo. One of us (S. Biswas) identified these as the Stumptailed macaque (*M. speciosa* F. Cuvier) and Pigtailed macaque [*M. nemestrina* (Linn.)]. These macaques are reported to have been caught in the Mawsynram area of Khasi Hills, Meghalaya and as such provide some interesting evidence about distribution of these monkeys, whose distributional records are rather poor or vague.

Stumptailed macaque: In their checklist, Ellerman and Morrison-Scott (1951) mention "Assam, Upper Burma, southern China, Tonkin and Annam" as the distributional range of the races of Stumptailed macaque. Prater (1965) stated that this species "inhabits the Assam hill forests" Kurup (1968) provided a more detailed account and showed 'Lakhimpur, Sadiya in Assam and Changchangpani, Diku river, Merangkong in Nagaland as definite areas of distribution. However he has

quoted the then Superintendent of Calcutta Zoological Garden stating that it also occurs in Nongstoin, area of Khasi Hill district. But no positive evidence has so far been found by us about its distribution in the Khasi Hills and as such the present group of 2 monkeys (one ♀ and one young) provide the first confirmation of Kurup's (op. cit) report.

Pigtailed macaque: The distribution of the Pigtailed macaque, appears more confusing. Pocock (1931) while providing a detailed account of this monkey mentioned that the distribution is unknown but "probably some district of British India east of Ganges? Naga hills in Assam". Ellerman and Morrison-Scott (op. cit.) stated that the "locality unknown, described from a single captive specimen". Prater (op. cit.) perhaps following earlier authors, simply mentioned about this animal as "the pigtailed macaque of the Naga hills", while Kurup (op. cit.) did not include this animal at all in his paper on mammals of Assam and adjoining areas. The present specimens (1♂ and 2♀) collected at Lawbah, about 14 km away from Mawsynram thus provide conclusive evidence about its occurrence in Meghalaya, northeastern India.

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4. *LEPUS ARABICUS* EHRENBERG FROM JAMMU AND KASHMIR: ADDITION TO THE MAMMALIAN FAUNA OF INDIA

During the faunistic survey of Jammu and Kashmir in 1974 a specimen of the Arabian Hare, *Lepus arabolicus* Ehrenberg was collected from Udampur, southeastern Jammu and Kashmir, which according to Ellerman & Morrison-Scott (1951) has not heretofore been recorded from India. Since a detailed report on the collection will take some time to come out, it is thought desirable to record this addition to the mammalian fauna of India.

***Lepus arabolicus* Ehrenberg**

1833. *Lepus arabolicus* Ehrenberg, *Symb. Phys. Mamm.*, 2: Sig. r. (Qunfidha, Arabia)
Material:

1♂: Jhajjar Kotli, Udampur, Jammu and Kashmir; 13 Nov. 1975; coll. S. Chakraborty.

Measurements:

External: Head and body 352 mm; Tail

112 mm, Hindfoot, 91 mm; Ear 123 mm.

Cranial: Occipitonasal 69 mm; Nasal 29.6 mm; Bullae 12 mm; Upper tooth row 11.3 mm; Frontal 15.7 mm; Mesopterygoid space 6.2 mm.

Distribution:

According to Ellerman & Morrison-Scott (1951) *Lepus arabolicus* is known to occur in Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Libya and Baluchistan. Therefore, the present material not only constitutes its first record from India, but also extends its range further eastward.

Remarks:

The specimen from Jammu and Kashmir agrees with the description of *Lepus craspedotis* Blanford (currently known as *Lepus arabolicus craspedotis*) given by Kloss (1918), but the black bands of hair at the posterior